

The Telegraph and Wimbledon Common



Moderate Terrain

A 3.5 mile circular walk in Putney Heath



The Telegraph is the perfect pub for refreshments before or after your walk.

A circular walk starting and finishing at the Telegraph, taking in the Windmill Museum and Caesar's Well Wimbledon Common. Total walk time of around 1 hour 30 to 1 hour 45 minutes.

Getting there

The walk starts and finishes outside the Telegraph pub on Wildcroft Road in Putney Heath. The pub has a car park and the post code for directions is **SW15 3TU**.

Access notes

1. Some sections of the walk are next to a road or a car park, so do please take care.
2. The route is relatively easy but depending on the season, may have short sections that are a little muddy and this should be considered when deciding to follow the walk and suitable footwear should be worn.

The walk

Leave the pub via the front door and turn right and walk towards the public car park.

Cross through the car park and take the footpath opposite which will bear to the left before leading to an underpass beneath the two main roads.

As you emerge from the underpass continue straight along the path which cuts across a meadow in front of you towards the trees.



After a little way you will cross over another path but keep following the path straight ahead.

Continue on this path heading straight for quite a while, making sure that you keep an eye out for cyclists who you will share the path with.

The path continues on ahead but there is a smaller path at a right angle to your right, opposite some oak trees. Take this path to the right and head across the meadow towards an opening in the trees.



Cross over the next path heading straight towards an opening in the trees ahead. As you approach this opening, another...



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small path becomes apparent on your left. Take this left path.



Head straight through the trees ignoring the paths to left and right and down a small incline. Bear slightly left at the bottom.

You will emerge at a car park (so take care) - ahead you will see the windmill tea rooms and windmill museum (along with

some handy toilets). You can obviously stop here to explore, this will be a helpful web site if you'd like to learn more; www.wimbledonwindmill.org.uk. But if you are continuing, then turn right with the windmill on your left and skirt the edge of the car park, turning left at its end.

In only a few yards you will see a path on your right through the trees, take this path and follow it downhill toward a lake at the bottom. (You are now on a section of the 7 mile 'Capital Ring Walk' that takes you from Wimbledon to Richmond – for another day!).



At the lake bear left along the path, it heads uphill away from the lake.

At the top of the incline head across the opening using the path to your left. A few meters after the trees start again the path forks, take the left fork.

You are now in 'golfers territory' as the walk passes to the side of the greens, so take care! You will pass a putting green on your right as the path bears left.



At the next cross roads of paths, with this memorial in front of you, take the right turn.

The KRR Stone was erected to commemorate men of the King's Royal Rifle Corps who passed through the Wimbledon Common transit camp during the First World War.

After only a minute or two you will see a small dirt path to your left. Take this through the trees. Once passed the golf green, turn right following the line of the fairway fencing

and head alongside the green. The trees on your left will end shortly and diagonally to your left across the green you will see a patch of trees with a stone well in the centre. This is 'Caesar's Well', so called because it is located some 400 yards due north of an Iron Age hillfort, dated circa 250 BC, and fancifully named 'Caesar's Camp'.

Much local evidence has been found to indicate that this area was used by Neolithic Man (circa 3000 to 1000 BC) who quite possibly drank (and perhaps worshipped) at this ancient site.



www.wimbledonguardian.co.uk/news/10733380.heritage-when-wimbledon-lived-from-its-wells/#gallery0

With your back facing the direction you came, follow the path up the hill to your left, bearing right a little at the top. Eventually you will come to a small car park.

Turn left and walk through the car park. There is a path at the end that leads slightly to the left going through some wooden gates. This is the path back to the pub (well almost) – but it's pretty plain sailing from here. Simply follow the path back through the park, passing to the right of the windmill. If you ever have a choice of paths choose the left hand side until you pass under a different underpass.

Once out the other side, bear right and pass by a pretty pond called Scio pond. Follow the path alongside the pond with the water on your left. At the head of the pond, (next to a handy dog waste bin!) take the path to the right that heads up the hill.

At the top the trees make way for a residential road (Portsmouth Road). Follow this to its end and you will see the pub on the right – waiting to serve you that much needed drink!

Disclaimer: We have taken care to make sure all our walks are safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

Walking Safety: For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks (who doesn't love a mid-walk snack), a mobile phone and to wear sensible footwear. If the weather has potential to be a little wet or cold, be sure to carry a waterproof jacket, a woolly hat and maybe a fleece. Some routes include sections along roads, for these please take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs.